

# **Washington State Government Responses to Global Warming**

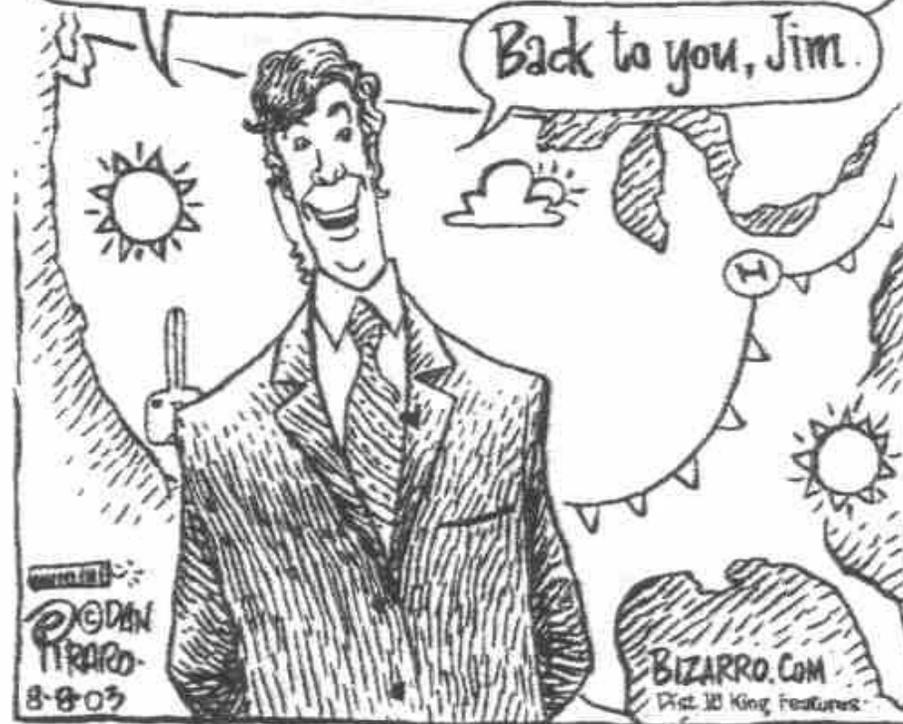
**June 15 2006**

**Kathleen Drew  
WA Governors Office**

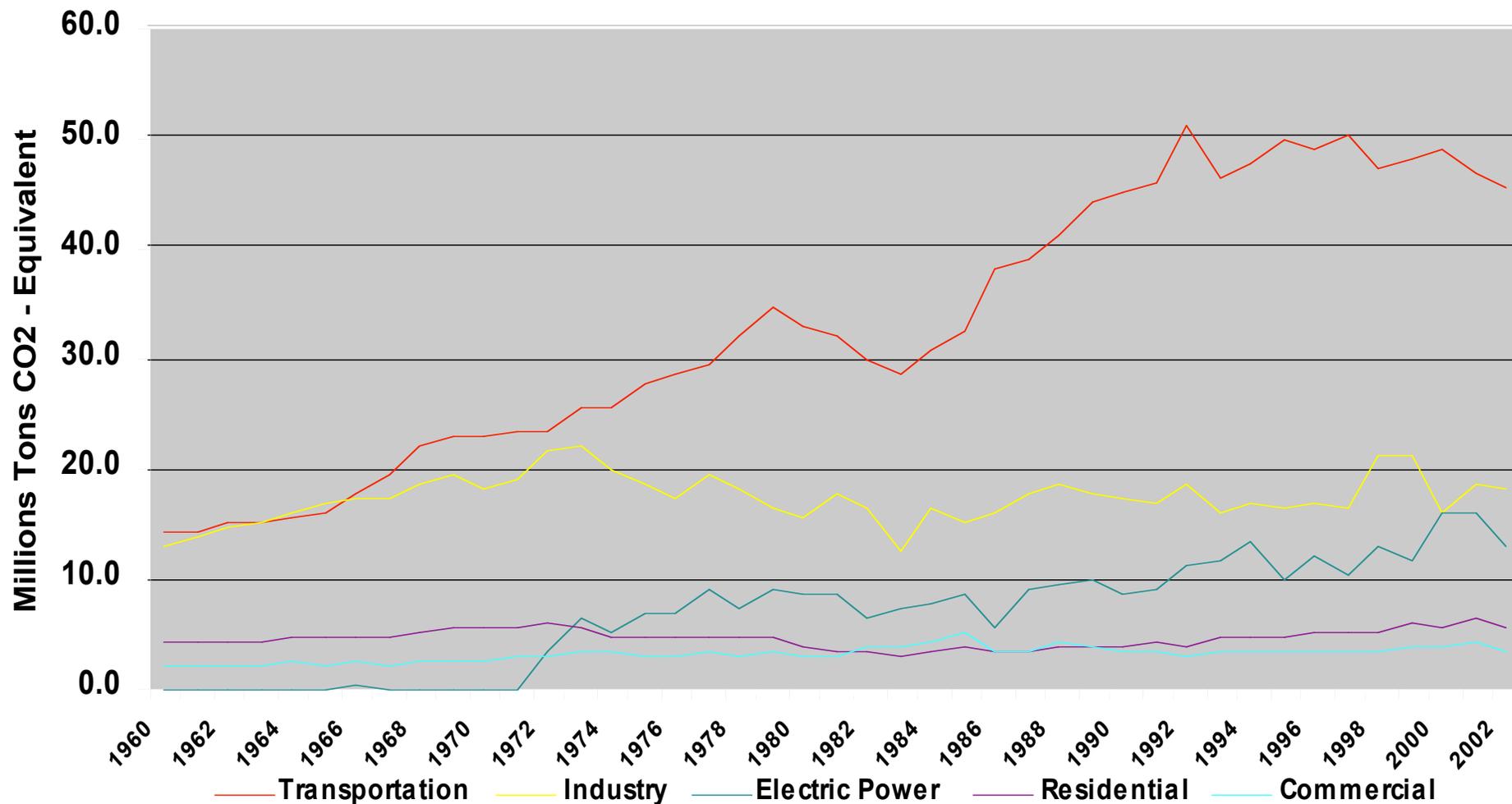
# BIZARRO

By Dan Piraro

Our extended forecast includes global warming & the catastrophic end of the human race. But for the weekend, it's looking like sunny skies, mild temperatures, & a general apathy toward environmental concerns.



# Washington State Historical Trends of Carbon Dioxide Use Emissions by Sector



# Three Major Policy Options

- **Reduction**

- Eliminate or Decrease Emissions of CO<sub>2</sub> and other greenhouse gases

- **Response**

- Infrastructure changes
- Behavioral changes
- Biological changes

- **Removal**

- Remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the Atmosphere – Sequestration
- WGA sequestration partnerships -  
<http://www.westgov.org/wieb/carbonseq/>

# Climate Change in WA: Economic Consequences Assessment

- Funded By State and Energy Foundation
  - Ecology and CTED lead agencies
- Fall 2006 Report to:
  - Governor, Legislature, Agencies and other policy makers and public
- Based on similar 2005 process in Oregon
- Scientific background and regional climate model forecast provided by the UW

# Report Content

- Executive summary
- Overview of regional climate change impacts
- Overview of impacts on public health, businesses, and infrastructure
- Existing economic analysis of regional climate change impacts
- Future areas of climate change economic research
- Conclusions and policy recommendations

# Report Focus: Washington Industries

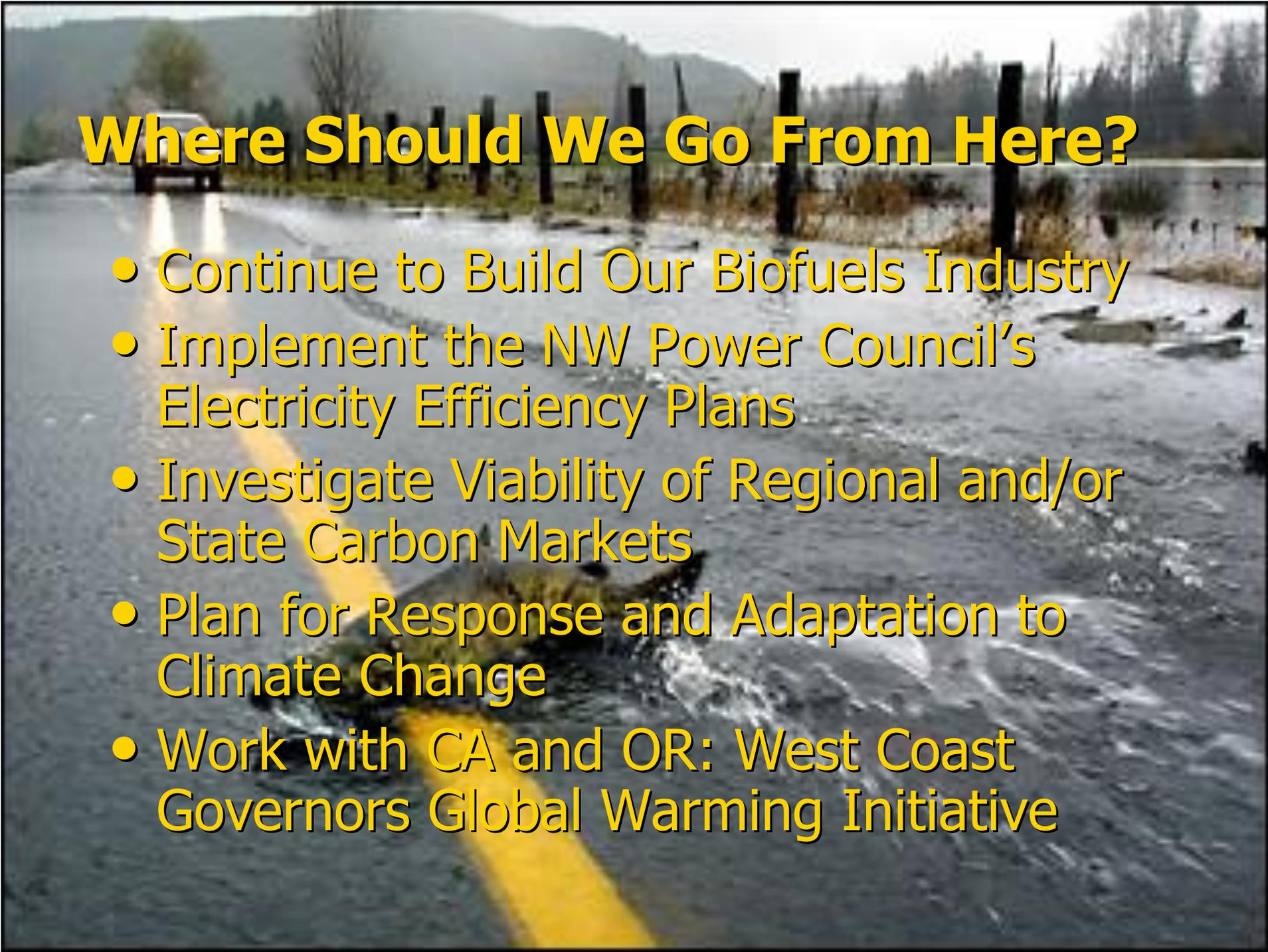
- Winter recreational activities
- Agriculture
  - Yakima Basin and the wine industry
- Hydropower
  - Reduced and earlier stream flows
- Forestry
- Fisheries
- Water utilities
- Ports

# Assessment Process

- Steering Committee established
- Panel of experts and advisory/stakeholders assembled
- Kick off Conference in May
- Draft review by August
- Second draft assembled and reviewed in September
- Final product by October

# Recent Policy Actions

- 2004 Power Plant GHG Reduction Requirements
- CA Vehicle Emissions Standards
- LEED Silver Standards for Public Buildings
- Product Efficiency Standards
- Biofuels Incentives and Markets

A photograph of a flooded road. In the distance, a car is driving away on the road, which is partially submerged in water. A fence with wooden posts runs across the middle ground. The background shows a hazy, mountainous landscape under an overcast sky. The text is overlaid on the image in yellow.

# Where Should We Go From Here?

- Continue to Build Our Biofuels Industry
- Implement the NW Power Council's Electricity Efficiency Plans
- Investigate Viability of Regional and/or State Carbon Markets
- Plan for Response and Adaptation to Climate Change
- Work with CA and OR: West Coast Governors Global Warming Initiative